# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE STATE OF NEBRASKA

FEB 28 2005

	FILED	
STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,		** *
PETITIONER,	) CONSENT ORDER	
VS.	)	
PAUL D. RONHOVDE,	) CAUSE NO. A-1609	
RESPONDENT.	) )	

In order to resolve this matter, the Nebraska Department of Insurance ("Department"), by and through its attorney, Michael C. Boyd and Paul D. Ronhovde, ("Respondent"), mutually stipulate and agree as follows:

### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. The Department has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §44-101.01 and §44-4047, et seq.
- 2. Respondent was licensed as an insurance producer under the laws of Nebraska at all times material hereto. Respondent's registered business address with the Department of Insurance is 11711 Arbor Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68144 and his registered home address with the Department of Insurance is 2311 Donna Street, Fremont, Nebraska 68025.

## STIPULATIONS OF FACT

1. The Department initiated this administrative proceeding by filing a petition styled State of Nebraska Department of Insurance vs. Paul D. Ronhovde on January 14, 2005. A copy of the petition was served upon the Respondent at the Respondent's home address registered with the

Department by certified mail, return receipt requested and at his business address registered with the Department of Insurance by First Class Mail.

- 2. The petition alleges that Respondent violated Neb. Rev. Stat. §§44-4054(8), 44-1525(11) and 44-4059(1)(b) as follows:
  - a. On or about April 13, 2004, Scott Zager, an Insurance Investigator employed by the Department of Insurance, sent a letter to Respondent at Respondent's registered business address by First Class Mail requesting a descriptive statement, along with a detailed outline of his handling and copies of the solicitation materials used, regarding a complaint filed by William and Sharon Area. This letter informed Respondent that a response was required to be made within fifteen (15) working days. On or about April 19, 2004, this letter was returned to the Department of Insurance by the United States Postal Service, stating the letter is being "returned to sender. Paul Ronhovde moved left no address, unable to forward".
  - b. On or about April 28, 2004, insurance investigator Zager sent a letter to Respondent at Respondent's registered home address requesting the same information on the same complaint as set forth in paragraph 3a above. The letter informed Respondent that a response was required to be made within fifteen (15) working days. This letter was not returned to the Department of Insurance by the United States Postal Service. Respondent failed to respond to that letter within fifteen (15) working days.
  - c. On or about June 1, 2004, Jane Francis, Administrator of the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Insurance, sent a follow-up letter to the Respondent at his registered home address by certified mail, return receipt requested, enclosing copies of the correspondence previously sent by investigator Zager, noting Respondent's failure to respond, and requesting his immediate response. On or about June 21, 2004, the certified letter was returned to the Department of Insurance by the United States Postal Service, stating that the letter was "Unclaimed". Respondent failed to respond to that letter within fifteen (15) working days.
  - d. On or about July 14, 2004, insurance investigator Zager contacted Empire General Life Assurance, the insurer referenced in the Area's complaint to attempt to obtain Respondent's current business address. They advised that he reported to them through their general agency, Financial Brokerage Corp. in Omaha. Investigator Zager contacted Financial Brokerage and they showed Respondent's current business address as 2319 Stork Circle, Fremont, NE 68025. That same date, investigator Zager sent a letter to Respondent at that address requesting the same information on the same complaint set forth in

Paragraph 3a above. The letter informed Respondent that a response was required to be made within fifteen (15) working days. This letter was not returned to the Department of Insurance by the United States Postal Service. Respondent failed to respond to that letter within fifteen (15) working days.

- e. On or about August 26, 2004, Jane Francis, Administrator of the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Insurance, sent a follow-up letter to Respondent at Respondent's "Stork Circle" business address by certified mail, return receipt requested, enclosing copies of the correspondence previously sent by investigator Zager, noting Respondent's failure to respond, and requesting his immediate response. The certified letter was signed for on or about August 28, 2004. Respondent failed to respond to that letter within fifteen (15) working days.
- 3. Respondent was informed of his right to a public hearing. Respondent waives that right, and enters into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily. Respondent understands and acknowledges that by waiving his right to a public hearing, Respondent also waives his right to confrontation of witnesses, production of evidence, and judicial review.
- 4. Respondent admits the allegations contained in the Petition and restated in Paragraph #2 above.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Respondent's conduct as alleged above constitutes a violation of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§44-4054(8), 44-1525(11) and 44-4059(1)(b).

#### CONSENT ORDER

It is therefore ordered by the Director of Insurance and agreed to by Respondent, Paul D. Ronhovde, that Respondent shall pay an administrative fine of \$1,000. The fine shall be paid in total within thirty (30) days from the date the Director of the Department of Insurance affixes his signature to this document and approves said consent agreement. If Respondent fails to pay this fine in the time specified, his Nebraska insurance producer's license shall automatically be suspended

indefinitely until his fine is paid in total. Additionally, Respondent Paul D. Ronhovde's insurance producer license is suspended until he fully cooperates with the Department's Consumer Affairs Division inquiry into the William and Sharon Area complaint by providing complete and detailed written responses to any and all requests received from the Department related to its investigation of that complaint, and Respondent informs the Department's Producer Licensing Division in writing of his current business address. The Nebraska Department of Insurance shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purpose of enabling the Respondent or the Department to make application for such further orders as may be necessary.

In witness of their intention to be bound by this Consent Order, each party has executed this document by subscribing his signature below. Michael C. Boyd Attorney for Nebraska Department of Insurance 941 "O" Street, Suite 400 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 (402)471-2201 2-24-05 Date **GENERAL NOTARY-State of Nebraska** State of \_\_\_\_\_ County of On this 14 day of FEBRUARY, 2005, Paul D. Ronhovde personally appeared before me and read this Consent Order, executed the same and acknowledged the same to be his voluntary act and deed.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Consent Order is adopted as the Final Order of the Nebraska Department of Insurance in the matter of State of Nebraska Department of Insurance vs. Paul D. Ronhovde, Cause No. A-1609.

STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

L. TIM WAGNER
Director of Insurance

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Date

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the executed Consent Order was sent to the Respondent at his home address registered with the Department 2311 Donna Street, Fremont, Nebraska 68025, by certified mail, return receipt requested on this \( \frac{1}{2} \) day of \( \frac{1}{2} \) day of \( \frac{1}{2} \).

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